

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (Previously presented) A method for the ~~production of~~ producing a laminated panel comprising a first glass ply having an inner face, a second glass ply having an inner face, and a bonding interlayer, the method comprising laminating the inner face of the first glass ply to the inner face of the second glass ply with the bonding interlayer therebetween, ~~said laminate~~ laminated panel having at least one bore extending through the panel wherein a sealing member is placed between the glass plies so as to surround the bore and form a seal with the inner faces of the glass plies thereby excluding the bonding interlayer from an area surrounding the bore and a load bearing insert is positioned in the area surrounding the bore from which the interlayer has been excluded.

Claim 22 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21 wherein the sealing member comprises a disc of a compressible material.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21 ~~wherein~~ further comprising removing the sealing member is removed from the laminated panel following the completion of the lamination process after laminating the inner face of the first glass ply to the inner face of the second glass ply.

Claim 24 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21 wherein the sealing member comprises a ring of a compressible material.

Claim 25 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21 wherein the load bearing insert is positioned after the lamination process.

Claim 26 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 25 wherein the load bearing insert is positioned by injecting a fluid into the area surrounding the bore and allowing the fluid to set to form the load bearing insert.

Claim 27 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 26 wherein air is withdrawn from the area surrounding the bore at the same time that the fluid is introduced.

Claim 28 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21 wherein the sealing member comprises a ring of compressible material which extends around the perimeter of an annulus formed from a load bearing material and which is positioned prior to the lamination step.

Claim 29 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 28 wherein thickness of the sealing member, prior to lamination, is greater than that of the annulus.

Claim 30 (Previously presented) The method according to claim 29 wherein the ring of compressible material is compressed so that its thickness is substantially the same as that of the disc during the lamination process.

Claim 31 (Currently amended) A laminated panel comprising a first glass ply[[,]] laminated to a second glass ply [[and]] with a bonding interlayer therebetween, the laminated panel having at least one bore passing through said panel, wherein the bonding interlayer is excluded from [[the]] an area surrounding the bore and a load bearing insert is positioned in the area from which the interlayer has been excluded.

Claim 32 (Previously presented) The panel according to claim 31 further comprising a sealing member positioned so as to surround the bore.

Claim 33 (Previously presented) The panel according to claim 32 wherein said seal is formed by a ring of compressible material positioned so as to surround the bore.

Claim 34 (Previously presented) The panel according to claim 33 wherein said insert comprises a load bearing disc which was positioned prior to the production of the laminate.

Claim 35 (Currently amended) The panel according to claim 33 wherein the insert comprises a load bearing annulus which has formed by the setting of a fluid, ~~which said fluid has~~ having been introduced into the area from which the interlayer has been excluded after the ~~lamination process has been completed~~ first glass ply has been laminated to the second glass ply.

Claim 36 (Previously presented) A glass assembly comprising at least one laminated panel according to claim 31.

Claim 37 (Currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The assembly according to claim 36 comprising at least two laminated panels lying in the same plane and jointed to one another by means of fixing assemblies which pass through a bore in each panel.

Claim 38 (Currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The assembly according to claim 37 wherein the fixing assemblies comprise a bolt passing through a bore and acting on a plate which bridges the two panels.

Claim 39 (Currently amended) ~~[[An]]~~ The assembly according to claim 36 which is attached to or part of a glass façade or a glass roof.